VZCZCXRO9204 RR RUEHLMC RUEHVK DE RUEHUM #0190/01 1190220 ZNR UUUUU ZZH R 280220Z APR 08 FM AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2092 INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 6104 RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 3303 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 2980 RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2197 RUEHGP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 0409 RUEHML/AMEMBASSY MANILA 1715 RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 1776 RUEHVK/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK 0262 RUEHSH/AMCONSUL SHENYANG 0500 RUEHDBU/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT 0054 RUEHAH/AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT 0050 RUEHEK/AMEMBASSY BISHKEK 0092 RUEHTA/AMEMBASSY ASTANA 0010 RUEHLMC/MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORP WASHINGTON DC RHEHNSC/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC

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STATE PASS USTR, USTDA, OPIC, AND EXIMBANK STATE FOR EAP/CM AND EB/IFD/OIA/INL USAID FOR ANE FOR D. WINSTON USDOC FOR ZHEN-GONG CROSS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ETRD ECON PGOV MG KIPR

SUBJECT: 2008 TRENDS IN MONGOLIAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED - NOT FOR INTERNET DISTRIBUTION

11. (SBU) SUMMARY: Generally, the Government of Mongolia and relevant agencies make good-faith efforts to enforce Intellectual Property Rights (IPR). However, gaps in enforcement of IPR rights in relation to optical media, software, and certain treaty obligations exist, due to political pressure from politically connected IPR pirates, inconsistencies between Mongolian laws and IPR treaties, and institutional indifference. In addition, Mongolia has developed a modest home-grown capacity to manufacture and distribute fakes that, although in its infancy, may reach out to counterfeit networks in China and Russia. For these reasons, Post recommends that Mongolia receive training in U.S. IPR positions and U.S. enforcement methods on an annual basis. END SUMMARY.

Mongolia's current regime for protecting IPR

- 12. (U) The Government of Mongolia (GOM) supports intellectual property rights in general and has protected American rights in particular. It has joined the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), and signed and ratified most treaties and conventions, including the WTO TRIPS agreement. The WIPO Internet treaties have been signed, but have yet to be ratified by Parliament. Although the convention has not yet been ratified, the GOM and its intellectual property rights enforcer, the Intellectual Property Office of Mongolia (IPOM), generally make a good-faith effort to honor these agreements.
- 13. (U) The IPOM generally has an excellent record of protecting American trademarks, copyrights and patents. However, its small budget and modest capacity limits the scope of its actions. In most cases, when the Embassy conveys a complaint from a rights holder to

the IPOM, the IPOM quickly investigates the complaint. If it judges that a violation has occurred, it seizes the pirated products or removes the faked trademarks, under administrative powers granted in Mongolian law.

14. (SBU) A specific case in point is the support provided last year to Mongol Star Melchers (MSM), the authorized distributor for Johnson and Johnson (JJ) medical products in Mongolia. MSM had reported that JJ's Vicryl line of sutures had suffered from trademark infringement of the Vicryl trademarks by a Mongolian firm that had imported fake sutures from China. Post facilitated contacts between the IPOM and the official distributor. IPOM investigated the infringement and expressed a desire to enforce JJ's trademarks, pending the distributor's completion of all Mongolian registration requirements. The distributor confirmed completion of _thq%\$reUwheeents"iN",Ate Dmr | b0 2q07m sdytg~l"o&'@(hQ,d))ndv}